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In re Application of: Butler
Serial No.: 09/676,405
Filed: 09/29/00
Title: A DISK DRIVE COMPRISING A COVER SHAPED TO IMPROVE RADIAL AND AXIAL SHROUDING

Group Art Unit: 2653
Examiner: Castro, A. A.

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ARLINGTON, VA 22202

Dear Sir,

In response to the office action mailed on 03/12/03 for the above-identified patent application, please enter the following amendments to the specification and consider the following remarks:

In The Specification

Please amend the paragraph on page 2, lines 13-22, as follows:

"Shrouding the disks 108 can reduce internal air turbulence thereby attenuating disk flutter, windage drag, and acoustic noise. The prior art disk drive of FIG. 1 provides radial shrouding by molding the base 106 into a cylindrical form such that the disk 108 fits snugly within, leaving a very narrow gap between the spinning outer perimeter of the disks 108 and the inner surface of base 106. However, the radial shroud of the base 106 cannot extend into the gap 118 coextensive with the actuator arms 110 so that the HSA can be inserted into the base 106 during manufacture. When inserting the HSA, the actuator arms 110 are rotated such that they fit into the gap 118 without damaging the heads 114. The actuator arms 110 are then rotated to position the heads 114 over the